

The Salem Gazette.

SALEM:
TUESDAY MORNING, MARCH 1, 1859

BOOK AND JOB PRINTING, OF ALL
DESCRIPTIONS, EXECUTED AT THIS OFFICE
IN THE BEST MANNER.

THE ESSEX INSTITUTE.

A meeting of the Essex Institute was held at Plummer Hall on Thursday evening, Feb. 21, 1859, at 7½ o'clock—Vice President Rev. J. L. Russell in the Chair. The records of the preceding meeting were read, and donations received since the previous meeting were announced as follows:—

To the Library—from L. A. H. Latour of Montreal, C. E.; C. T. Thayer of Beverly; Thos. H. Lefavor; E. M. Stone of Providence, R. I.; Wm. H. Kilby of Eastport, Me.; Wm. Brown.

To the Cabinets—from Geo. Russell, J. N. Martin, Thos. H. Lefavor, Allen Jacobs of Danvers, Simeon Shurtleff of Westfield, Lincoln R. Stone, James Kimball.

Several letters were also announced, after which Dr. LINCOLN R. STONE presented the following report relating to the painting representing one of the Witchcraft trials—that of George Jacobs—which was recently presented to the Institute by R. W. Ropes & Co., and which occupies a prominent position over the landing of the main stairway to the second story of Plummer Hall.

THE TRIAL OF GEO. JACOBS FOR WITCHCRAFT.

The Historical Department of the Institute has received, from Messrs. Ripley and Charles Ropes, a picture—the "Trial of George Jacobs of Salem Village for Witchcraft,"—and it has been thought best that a more extended notice should be taken of it than the simple acknowledgment of it among the donations to that department. As one of the curators of the Historical collections, the duty has been assigned to me of giving some sketch of the trial and execution of Jacobs.

For most of my facts I am indebted to S. P. Fowler, Esq., of Danvers-port, who has investigated the subject very fully and communicated several papers in relation to it to the Institute. I have also used Upham's Lectures upon Witchcraft, and examined Hale's "Modest Enquiry into the Nature of Witchcraft," and Calef's Wonders of the Invisible World.

Before speaking at once of the Trial of Jacobs, I will, at the risk of trespassing upon your patience, and repeating what is a very threadbare and old story to most, if not all, who may hear me, give a slight account of the sudden rise and equally sudden fall of Witchcraft in our vicinity.

In the 16th and 17th centuries, trials for witchcraft were frequent in England, Scotland, Ireland and France, and many suffered in all those countries. In Scotland, as late as 1720 or thereabouts, a person, an old idiotic woman, was hanged for a witch. Hundreds are said to have been burnt at the stake, the innocent as well as insane, young as well as old, neither sex nor condition, being any safeguard.

England was not behind Scotland, in the punishment of reputed witches, and, during the Long Parliament alone, about three thousand people were executed for witchcraft—about thirty thousand in all! [Household Words, Oct. 1857, p. 117.

The testimony, and the actions and appearances of the witnesses in their courts were very similar to those in our courts. The last execution in England was in 1716, and it was not till the middle of the year 1751, that the Witch Laws were abolished. The immediate cause of the abolition was the trial of three men for the murder of a suspected witch and the attempted murder of another. One of the men was executed, and the rabble cursed the authorities and made a riot at the gallows, praising the man for the murder, having rid the parish of a malignant witch, and holding him up as deserving of reward, not "punishment."

In France, the same horrible barbarity was shown, and Mr. Hale, in his enquiry, states that 900 were put to death, adding, "And in some other places the like; so that New England is not the only place circumvented by the wiles of the wicked and wisely Serpent in this kind."

Very early in the settlement of New England, as early as 1646, several persons had been charged with and suffered for witchcraft in the Governments of Massachusetts, New Haven, or Stratford, and Connecticut colonies, (Hale p. 16-17) the first, a woman of Charlestown, in 1647 or '48, who was executed, and on the day of the execution she was visited by Mr. Hale, and he took great pains to bring her to confession and repentance. But she constantly professed herself innocent of that crime, and on being asked to consider if God did not bring this punishment upon her for some other crime, as stealing, she answered, she had stolen something, but it was long since, and she had repented of it, and there was Grace enough in Christ to pardon that long ago; but as for Witchcraft, she was wholly free from it; and so she said until her death.

Some time after this a woman of Dorchester suffered; another in Cambridge, also, in Boston, 1656; Hartford; and, some 16 years before the panic in Salem, a woman of Newbury was tried and found guilty, but the Governor, Simon Bradstreet, Esq., reprieved her. The next that suffered was an Irish woman of Boston, suspected to bewitch John Goodwin's children, who, upon her trial did in Irish (as was testified by the interpreters) "confess herself and was condemned out of her own mouth;" and Mr. Hall quotes Luke 19, 22 ("Out of thine own mouth will I judge thee.")

In the last of February, in the year 1692, in the family of Rev. Mr. Parris, in Salem Village, commenced "the great and awful tragedy" which spread a terror over all New England. The persons afflicted were a daughter, nine years of age, and a niece of Mr. Parris, and a young female of the neighborhood. They at first complained of an Indian woman in the family of Mr. Parris, and she was committed to prison, and was finally sold for fees. Upon her release she declared "that her master had beat her, and other ways abused her, to make her confess and accuse (such as he called) her Sister Witches, and whatsoever she had said by way of confessing or accusing others, was the effect of such usage."

In March, the 2d, goodwife Corey was examined by the magistrates, in the meeting-house at the village; this being, I think, the first public examination or trial. The examinations generally took place, as is well known, at the house on the corner of North and Essex streets, at that time the residence of Jonathan Corwin, Esq., acting Magistrate. His colleague was John Hathorne, Esq. "The 31st day of March was set apart as a day of solemn humiliation at Salem. But the delusion spread and the number of the accused was very large."

To meet the extraordinary crisis a special commission was issued to seven of the principal citizens and jurists of the colony, constituting them a court of Oyer and Terminer, to try the accused persons at Salem. These were the Lieut. Governor, Mr. Stoughton, Major Saltonstall, Major Richards, Major Gedney, Mr. Wait Winthrop, Capt. Sewall, and Mr. Sargent—They assembled by appointment at the Court House in Salem, on the 2d of June, 1692. The first victim was executed on the 10th of June, Bridget Bishop, alias Oliver. The Court sat again on the 30th of June and five more women were hanged on the nineteenth of July. The Court sat again Aug. 5, and on the 19th of the same month four men and one woman were hanged. On the 22d of September, two men and six women were hanged. Eight more were condemned, but this was the last execution. One man, Giles Corey, refusing to be tried, was pressed to death, agreeably to the provisions of the English law.

In January, 1692-3, a reprieve was granted to those condemned to be hung, which so moved the Chief judge, Stoughton, that he said to this effect:—

"We were in a way to have cleared the land of them; who it is that obstructs the cause of justice, I know not; the Lord be merciful to the country;" and so went off the bench and came no more into that court. Afterwards, the Jury that tried the cases signed and circulated an humble and solemn declaration of regret for the part they had borne in the trials, acknowledging their errors and fears that they had been deluded and mistaken; asking forgiveness of God for Christ's sake; concluding: "We do humbly ask forgiveness of you all, whom we have justly offended: and do declare according to our present minds, we would none of us do such things again, on such grounds, for the whole world; praying you to accept of this, in way of satisfaction for our offence, and that you would bless the inheritance of the Lord, that he may be entreated for the land."

Judge Sewall annually observed a day of humiliation and prayer during the remainder of his life, to show his repentance and sorrow for the part he took in the trials. On the day of the general Fast, in the winter of 1696-7, he rose in his place in the Old South in Boston, and in presence of the assembly, handed up to the pulpit a written confession, acknowledging the error into which he had been led, praying for forgiveness of God and his people, with a request to all the congregation to unite with him in supplication, that it might not bring down the displeasure of the Most High upon his country, his family or himself.

Thus ended the tragedy. The number of those who suffered death was twenty—nineteen by hanging, one by pressing to death; eight were condemned to death but escaped; fifty-five escaped by confessing themselves guilty; one hundred and fifty were in prison and more than two hundred were accused.

But, to return to the Trial of George Jacobs, which took place on the 5th of August, 1692.

On the 12th of May, 1692, George Jacobs, Sen., of Salem Village, was committed to Boston jail for witchcraft, and remained there six weeks and a few days. On the fifth day of August, the same year, at a Court of Oyer and Terminer held at Salem, he was tried with five others—the Rev. Geo. Burroughs, a former minister of Salem Village, John Proctor and his wife Elizabeth, John Willard and Martha Carrier of Andover, who were all brought in by the jury guilty of the crime of Witchcraft.

They were all executed on the nineteenth of August, with the exception of Elizabeth Proctor, on Gallows Hill in Salem.

The witnesses in these trials were Margaret Jacobs, grand daughter of George Jacobs, Mary Wolecott, Elizabeth Hubbard, Ann Putnam, Mercy Lewis and Mary Warren.

It is probable that Margaret Jacobs testified against her grandfather and Mr. Burroughs, to save her own life, for she acknowledged to Mr. B., the day before the execution, that she had belied him, and begged his forgiveness, who not only forgave her, but also prayed with and for her. The day after their execution she wrote the following letter to her father, George Jacobs, Jr.:

From the dungeon in Salem Prison.
August 20th, 1692.

HONOURED FATHER.—After my humble duty remembered to you, hoping in the Lord of your good health, as blessed be God I enjoy, though in abundance of affliction, being close confined here in a loathsome dungeon; the Lord look down in mercy upon me, not knowing how soon I shall be put to death, by means of the afflicted persons, my grandfather having suffered already, and all his estate seized for the king. The reason of my confinement is this: I having through the magistrates' threatenings, and my own vile and wretched heart, confessed several things contrary to my conscience and knowledge, though to the wounding of my soul, (the Lord pardon me for it!) but oh! the terrors of a wounded conscience who can bear? But, blessed be the Lord, he would not let me go on in my sins, but in mercy, I hope, to my soul, would not suffer me to keep it any longer; but I was forced to confess the truth of all before the magistrates, who would not believe me, but it is their pleasure to put me in here, and God knows how soon I shall be put to death. Dear Father, let me beg your prayers to the Lord on my behalf, and send us a joyful and happy meeting in heaven. My mother, poor woman, is very crazy, and remembers her kind love to you, and to uncle, viz. P. A. So leaving you to the protection of the Lord, I rest your dutiful daughter,

MARGARET JACOBS.

At the time appointed for her trial, she had an abscess in her head, which caused her escape. [Calef pp. 224, 225.] She would have been hung for her recantation as some others were. "Her Father (George Jacobs, Jr.) was likewise accused, but fled. Her mother, a crazy, sickly woman, was likewise accused and imprisoned; she had four small children with her in the house, when the officer came, and persuaded her to go with him, telling her, she would speedily return; when she came into the presence of the afflicted, they said they did not know her, but, at length, one of them saying, 'Don't you know Jacobs, the old witch?' they all fell down into fits and accused her; she was then sent to Prison, and lay there ten months, and the neighbors in the mean time kept the children from starving." [Neal's History of New England, p. 147.]

Mr. Jacobs is said to have been a very respectable farmer, in comfortable circumstances, and quite aged; and is thought by Mr. Fowler to have been lame, using two canes to assist him in walking—the afflicted accusing him of striking them with his stick. He left several children, George, Anne and Margaret, and his wife survived him. He left a will written before his execution. Calef says: [pp. 223-4.]

"Old Jacobs being Condemned, the sheriff (Corwin) and officers, came and seized all he had; his wife had her wedding ring taken from her, but with great difficulty obtained it again. She was forced to buy provisions of the sheriff, such as he had taken, towards her own support, which, not being sufficient, the neighbors in charity relieved her."

Mr. Fowler has also given me a copy of the losses sustained to the estate by the seizure of the sheriff, copied from the records of the Commonwealth, as follows:

AN ACCOUNT of what was seized and taken away from the estate of George Jacobs, Sen., late of Salem, dec'd, by Sheriff Corwin and his assistants, in the year 1692:—

| | |
|---|----------|
| Five Cows, faire large Cattle, 3 pounds pr Cow, | £15 0 0 |
| Eight Loads of English Hay taken out of ye Barn, 35 shil, pr Load, | 14 0 0 |
| A parcel of Apples yt made 24 barrels Cider, to haue, viz: 12 barrels Cider, 8 shil. pr barrel 4 16 0 | |
| 60 bushels of Indian Corn, 2 shil. 6d. pr bush, 1 10 0 | |
| A Mare, | 2 0 0 |
| 2 good feather beds and furniture, Rugs, blankets, Sheets, bolster and pillows, | 10 0 0 |
| 2 brass kettles, lost, | 6 0 0 |
| Money, 12 shillings, a Large Good thumb Ring, 20 shillings, | 1 12 0 |
| five swine | 3 15 0 |
| a quantity of pewter which I cannot exactly know ye worth—perhaps, | 3 0 0 |
| besides abundance of small things, meat in ye house, fowls, chairs, and other things took clear away, above | 12 0 0 |
| | £79 13 0 |

The Jacobs place is in Danvers Port, near the Iron Foundry, on the right going to Danvers, and upon it still live two men of the same name, both born in the old house, which is still standing.

I have lately visited the place, but can find nothing of family tradition except that the grave is still pointed out where Geo. Jacobs is supposed to have been buried; and a few years ago Matthew Hooper, Esq., bought the land containing it, and on opening the grave found the bones of an old person, with a locket enclosing hair. The bones were carefully re-interred, and this is the only grave that can be pointed out with any degree of certainty, as belonging to the victims of the strange delusion of 1692.

Would it not be well for the Institute to erect some tablet to mark the spot?

After the conclusion of Dr. Stone's paper, Mr. Ira J. Patch presented a certified copy of all the proceedings of this trial, from the records in the office of the Clerk of the Courts for this County, and read such portions as were deemed most pertinent, interspersing the reading with interesting explanatory comments. Mr. Patch complimented the picture as a faithful portraiture of the trial, so far as could be judged from a perusal of the documents, and endorsed the statement of Dr. Stone. The following is an abstract of what was presented by Mr. Patch:—

MR. PATCH'S COMMUNICATION.

On the tenth of May 1692, a warrant was issued for the apprehension of George Jacobs Jr., who stood accused of high suspicion of sundry acts of witchcraft by him committed on sundry persons in Salem to their great wrong and injury.

It was served the same day by Joseph Neal, Constable of Salem. On the same day (May 10th 1692) said Jacobs was had before Justices Hathorne and Corwin, for examination, the record of which is as follows, viz,

The Examination of Geo. Jacobs Sen's 10 May 1692. Here are them that accuse you of acts of Witchcraft.

Well, let us hear who are they and what are they. Abigail Williams. Jacobs laugh.

Because I am falsely accused. Your worships all of you do you think this is true?

Nay, what do you think?

I never did it.

Who did it?

Don't ask me.

Why should we not ask? Sarah Churchwell accuseth you, there she is.

I am as innocent as the Child born to night. I have lived thirty-three years here in Salem.

What then?

If you can prove that I am guilty I will lye under it.

Sarah Churchwell said last night I was afflicted at Deacon Ingersalls and Mary Walcott said it was a man with two staves—it was my master.

Pray do not accuse me. I am as clear as your worships—you must do right judgments.

What book did he bring you Sarah?

The same that the other woman brought.

[Tradition says that the Devil went about in different shapes,—as a man dressed in black, a bird, cat or dog, and that he had a book in which his subjects signed by touching the page with the finger, leaving a red spot; by so doing, they bound themselves to serve the devil; he promising them in return those things they desired, seldom, however, performing his promises, as appears by the confession below. It is said, too, that certain of his subjects had books also which were used to the same purpose.]

The Devil can go in any shape.

Did not he appear on the other side of the river and hurt you did not you see him.

Yes he did.

Look there, she accuseth you to your face she chargeth you that you hurt her twice. Is it not true?

What would you have me say? I never wronged no man in word or deed.

Here are three evidences.

You tax me for a wizard, you may as well tax me for a buxard.

I have done no harm.

Is it no harm to afflict these?

I never did it.

But how comes it to be in your appearance?

The Devil can take any likeness.

[Jacobs says the Devil can take any likeness, meaning probably to express the belief that the Devil is allowed to assume any shape for his wicked purposes, without the consent of the individual.]

Not without their consent.

Please your worship it is untrue. I never showed the book. I am silly about these things as the child born last night.

That is your saying; you argue you have lived so long, but what then, Cain might live long, before he killed Abel, and you might live long before the Devil had so prevailed on you.

Christ hath suffered three times for me.

What three times?

He su Israel the cross and Gall.—

You had as good confess (said Sarah Churchwell) if you are guilty.

Have you heard that I have any witchcraft?

I know you live a wicked life.

Let her make it out.

Doth he ever pray in his family?

Not unless by himself.

Why do you not pray in your family?

I cannot read.

Well but you may pray for all that. Can you say the Lord's prayer?

Let us hear you.

He might in several parts of it and could not repeat it right after Mary Mialls.

[Requiring a person who was accused of Witchcraft to repeat the Lord's prayer was one of the tests of witchcraft, it being thought that a witch could not repeat the attributes of God without hesitancy or failure.]

Sarah Churchwell, when you wrote in the book you was showed your masters name you said.

Yes sir.

If she say so, if you do not know it what will you say?

But she saw you or your likeness tempt her to write.

One in my likeness, the Devil may present my likeness.

Were you not frighted Sarah Churchwell when the representation of your master came to you?

Yes.

Well! burn me, or hang me, I will stand in the truth of Christ. I know nothing of it.

Do you know nothing of getting your son George and his daughter Margaret to sign?

No nothing at all.

The examination was continued the next day as follows.

The second Examination of said George Jacobs, May 1692.

The bewitched fell into most grovovs fits and screechings when he came in.

Is this the man that hurts you.

Abig. Williams cried out this is the man and fell into a violent fit.

Ann Putnam said this is the man and he hurts her and brings the book to her and would have her write in the book and she should be as well as his Granddaughter.

Mercy Lewis is this the Man?

This is the man (after much interruption, by fits) he almost kills me.

Eliz. Hubbard said this man never hurt her till to day he came upon the table.

Mary Walcott, is this the man?

After much interruptions by fits she said this is the man, he used to come with two staves and beat her with one of them.

What do you say are you a witch?

No I know it not, if I were to dye presently.

Mercy Lewis went to come near him but fell into great fits.

Mercy Lewis testimony read. What do you say to this.

Why it is false; I know not of it any more than the child that was born to night.

Ann Putnam said yes, you told me so, that you had been so this forty years.

Ann Putnam and Abigail Williams had each of them a pin stuck in their hands and they said it was this old Jacobs.

[One of the most common modes of torture was pricking with pins in various parts of the body, pins having been drawn from the body, pushed in to the head. There are about a dozen of these pins in the Clerk of the Courts' office, preserved as curiosities.]

Abigail Williams testimony read.

Are not you the man that made disturbance at a Lecture in Salem?

No great disturbance. Do you think I use witchcraft?

Yes, indeed.

No I use none of them.

On the fourth of August 1692, a summons was issued to witnesses to attend forthwith before the Court of Oyer and Terminer, to testify relative to certain indictments against George Jacobs, Senior, wherein,

"The Jurors for our Sovereign Lord and Lady the King and Queen presents That George Jacobs Sen. of Salem in ye County of Essex, the 11th day of May in the fourth year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord and Lady William and Mary by the Grace of God of England Scotland France and Ireland King and Queen Defenders of the faith &c and Divers other Dayes and times as well before as after certain Detestable Arts called witchcrafts and Sorceries wickedly and feloniously hath used Practised and Exercised at and within the Township of Salem in the County of Essex aforesaid, in town and against one Mercy Lewis of Salem village singlewoman by which said wicked Arts, the said Mercy Lewis the 11th day of May in the fourth year above said and Divers other Dayes and Times as well before as after was and is Tortured afflicted Pined Consumed wasted and Tormented and also for sundry other acts of witchcraft by said George Jacobs committed and done before and since that time against the Peace of our Sovereign Lord and Lady the King and Queen their crowne and Dignity and against the forme of the statutes in that case made and provided."

The witnesses summoned, were Joseph Flint, John Waters Jr., John Doritch, Corp'l John Foster, Capt. Putnam, and Rebecca, his wife.

At the trial, Aug. 4, 1692, the following evidence was offered, viz:

"The testimony of George Herriek, aged thirty four yeares or thereabouts Testifyeth and Saith that some time in May last by order of their Majesties Justices I went to the Prison in Salem to search George Jacobs Sen'r and Likewise William Dounton the Goale Keeper and Joseph Neal constable was in presence and concerned with mee in the search, where under ye said Jacobs his Right shoulder wee found a tett about a quarter of an inch longue or better, with a sharp point Druping downwards so that I took a pinn from sd Dounton and Run it through the sd tett but there was neither watter blood nor corruption nor any other matter and so we make Returne.

William Dounton testifyeth the above written and wee further testify and say ye sd Jacobs was not in the least Seneable in what wee had done for after I had made Returne to the maiestrates and Returned I told ye sd Jacobs, And he knew nothing before."

[In many of the witch trials, there was a jury appointed to view the bodies of those accused and report to the Court. If upon searching the body they could find any mole, pimple, boil, birth mark, scar or scratch, it was considered safe evidence on which to convict.]

Mary Warren affirmed that George Jacobs, jr. has afflicted her said Warren and beat her with a staffe he or his apparition said Warren says that she has seen said Jacobs or Apparition afflict Mary Walcott and beat her with his staffe she said also that said Jacobs has afflicted Ann Putnam said Warren verily thinks said George Jacobs is a wizard.

Elizabeth Hubbard Mary Wolecott and Sarah Churchwell testify to the same in substance as above in Mary Warren's testimony.

"Sarah Vibber made oath yt she saw him yts George Jacobs at ye Gallows when Goody Olliver was executed and ye blackman help him up and yt she saw him afflict Mary Walcott and beat her with his staffe."

"John Doritch aged 16 yeares or thereabouts Testifyeth and Saith. That John Small and his wife Anne both deceased and formerly of the Towne of Salem doth both appear to this Deponent and told him that they would tare him to pieces if he did not goe and declare to Mr. Hathorne that George Jacobs Senior Did kill them and Likewise that Mary Warrens mother did Appear to this deponent this day, with a white man and told him that Goodwife Parker and his wife did kill her and Likewise Core Proctor and his wife, Sarah Proctor Joseph Proctor and John Proctor did all afflict this deponent and do continu-

ally every day sence he hath begun to be afflicted and would have him this deponent to set his hand to a book but deponent told them he would not. Likewise Philip English and his wife Mary doth appear to this deponent, and afflict him and all the abovev persons Thretten to tare this deponent in pieces if he dothe not signe to a booke Likewise Goodwife Pease and Hobbs, and her daughter Abigail doth afflict him and Thretten the same, and Likewise a woman appeares to this deponent who lives at Boston, at ye upper end of ye Towne whose name is Mary she goes in black clothes hath but one eye with a crooked Neck and she saith there is none in Boston like her, she did afflict this deponent, but saith she will not any more nor tell him her name."

The deposition of mercy Lewes who testifieth and saith that on 20th April 1692, att or about midnight there appeared to me the apperition of an old: very gray headed man and told me that his name was George Jacobs and that he had had two wives and he did tortor me and beate me with a stick which he had in his hand and urged me to write in his book which I refused to doe, and so he hath continued ever since by times coming suntuimes with two stickes in his hands to afflict me, still tempting me to write in his book, but most dreadfull he fell upon me and did tortor me on the 9th of May, at eueng after I came whom from the Examination of his maid: threatening to kill me yt night if I would not write in his book because I did witness against his maid and persuaded her to confess but because I would not veald to his hellish temptations he did tortor me most cruelly by beating me with two stickes which he had in his hands and almost rely to putt all my bones out of j ynt tell my strength and hartt was Reiy to fall but being upheld by an Almighty hand and encouraged by them that stood by I endured his tortors that night the 10th May he again sett upon me and afflicted me most grievously a great many times in the day still urging me to write in his book but att evening he again tortored me most grievously by pinching me and beating me black and blue and threatening to kill me if I would not write in his book but I told him I would not wait in his book tho he did kill me and tare me all to pieces then he profered me to give me gold and many figue things, if I would write in his book but I told him I would not writ in his book if he would give me all the world then againe he did tortor me most grievously but at last went away from me, also on the 15th May 1692, being the day of Examination of George Jacobs then I saw that it was that very man that told me his name was George Jacobs and he did also most dreadfully torment me almost rely to kill me and I yet y believe in my hart that George Jacobs is a most dreadfull wizard and that he hath very often afflicted and tormented me by his acts of witchcraft.

The Deposition of Joseph Flint aged 30 yeares Saith yt being at ye house of Mr. Thomas Beadies on ye 11th of May 1692 when ye Magistrates were Examining George Jacobs his Granddaughter and understanding that she had confessed I this deponent went into ye other room where George Jacobs, was and told him yt his Granddaughter had confessed he asked me what she had confessed I told him yt she confessed she was a witch or that she had set her hand to ye Devils booke. Whereupon sd. Jacobs said that she was charged not to confess, and then I asked him who charged her not to confess, he then made a stop and at last said yt if she were innocent and yet confessed she would be necessary for her owne death.

After a few remarks from the chair, a vote of thanks was passed to Messrs. Stone and Patch, for the communications presented this evening.